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PORTLAND, THURSDAY, AUGUST 8, 1918.

KEEP HAMMERING AWAY.

An Army of 5,000,000 Americans in France would excel that with which Germany began the invasion of France and would probably equal the entire force now at the disposal of the Kaiser, leaving the British, French and Belgians as a generous margin for the allies. Including the latter, the allies would have an advantage of two to one.

More important still than numbers will be the quality and equipment of the Americans. Nearly all will be in the prime of life, between 21 and 30, while the men of that age in the German army, as well as in the French and British, have been seriously reduced in number and physique and have been replaced by older men and immature boys. The Americans will also have the best rifles, machine guns, cannon and aircraft, having profited by tests made by the allies in three years of actual war. Though the allies have to take strong positions, well defended, these advantages will count for much.

Decision of the Supreme War Council to speed up the war to a conclusion implies that an unremitting offensive will be continued from this time forward, in order that the shaken enemy may have no respite to recover his wind. If the allies keep him on the move, he will move faster, his resistance will slacken and he will the sooner be hammered into submission.

This may involve heavier immediate expense, but it will cut short the war with its immense cost in blood and money, and will reduce the aggregate cost in both respects. An unceasing drive in France will give Germany no chance to send aid to Austria, which should soon receive another blow from Italy, and it will force Germany to draw troops away from Russia. The way to wind up the fight is to keep the enemy going until he is gone.

FOOD IN THE WILDS.

Accounts agree that the current crop of wild blackberries is practically inexhaustible, that huckleberries, particularly in the Government forest reserves, are even more abundant than they were last year, and that the salmonberries and thimbleberries growing in the wetter places have never been more plentiful. There are epicures who will contend that the salmonberry is tasteless and not worth the harvesting, but it is not so. It is only that we have been rendered too nice in our tastes by the plentitude of good things which Nature has bestowed upon us. Even the salmonberry in wartime deserves not to be neglected.

But there is nothing that can be said that is too extravagant in praise of either the wild blackberry or the huckleberry. Either is fit for the pantry of a King. We are sorry for those unfortunates who have been denied the pleasure of tasting them. It is too bad that they have not been domesticated successfully, but since they have not been it is our plain duty to hunt them out in their habitat. It is a duty enjoined both by the zest they will contribute to dining later in the year and by the necessities of the food situation.

Huckleberries will ripen this year, from present indications, between August 15 and September 15, so that it is not too early now to begin planning to gather them. It is perhaps unfortunate that the Forest Service has been unable, because of shortage of funds, to carry out an extensive programme of trail-building, but it has done the best it could do by concentrating its efforts upon maintaining the established routes into the wilderness. But for that matter, hunting huckleberries will be all the more interesting if it is attended by some of the excitement and novelty of exploration. Campers and automobilists, and, in general, all persons who are still planning their vacations, will do well to consider the patriotic claims of the wild berry patches, and to combine food conservation with recreation while the season lasts.

Huckleberry savants say that the 1918 crop is ripening earlier than it did last year, and that although the bushes which bore heavily in 1917 are resting this year, the principle of alternating seasons applies rather to patches than to localities. In general the berry-hunter will make no mistake by returning to his former fields, but ought not to become discouraged if he does not immediately find that which he seeks. In the Bull Run reserve, for example, it is reported that bushes which were bare last Summer are now laden with fast-ripening, luscious fruit. Mr. Albert Wiesendanger, of the Forest Reserve at Eagle Creek, one of the consistent friends of all berry-pickers, gives an idea of the possibilities of this source of supply with his estimate that 300 gallons of huckleberries were harvested last year along the Wauna trail alone. But this is only a single trail and an insignificant part of the whole huckleberry patch of the Northwest. There are literally hundreds of tons of berries waiting only for people to go after them.

The obligation of our berry-hunters, however, is two-fold. They will not show true appreciation of their opportunity unless they exercise especial care to avoid starting forest fires. The past season has been unusually dry and danger of starting a disastrous conflagration is very great, but this calls only for reasonable precautions, which will be suggested to any one possessing the slightest knowledge of woodcraft. No hardship will be involved, but the warning of the Forest Service is especially timely because of the shortage of labor for fire-fighting.

Nature has done its part in the woods of Oregon and Washington this year to aid the food campaign. Not only berries but nuts are very plentiful. The oldest inhabitant cannot remember having seen more hazelnuts in prime condition—more than the squirrels can possibly store away. A little farther from the center of population the famous and delicious wild plum of Southern Oregon, which enthusiasts of that region vow is not only a food but a medicine that cures all ills, is waiting to be made into the finest preserve one ever tasted. It is doubtful if these natural sources of good food have ever been prospected to the limit of their possibilities. They ought not to be neglected now.

WATCH THE WAR GARDEN.

The householder who now has a successful war garden knows by this time that the price of anything worth having is hard work. Every thriving vegetable patch is a testimonial to the diligence, the patience and the endurance of its owner. There are surprisingly few, all things considered, which show neglect. A good fight has been waged, and the harvest is almost at hand.

It is not, however, a time for relaxing all effort. The tendency to "let down" in the heat of August may be dangerous. The late cabbages, cauliflowers and tomatoes are not yet out of the woods. It is not too late to protect threatened vegetables with arsenical sprays, remembering that no part of the late cabbage, for example, which is now growing will be eaten. The cabbage develops from the inside, and the edible portion will not be affected. The fight on weeds should be continued, both for the sake of the present crop and to make next year's work easier. Weeds should be prevented from going to seed if possible. It should be borne in mind that where weeds are concerned an ounce of prevention is literally worth a pound of cure.

Nor, as to the portion of the garden which has been harvested, is it too late to plant certain succession crops. The home garden is a valuable asset, and it should be made to do full duty. There are still long evenings which can be profitably employed out of doors. Temptation to cease work should be resisted. The work of a few minutes each day will still bring its reward.

WORKING TO MUSIC.

Music received its highest possible justification the other day in Indiana when it was employed to speed up the harvesting of a field of wheat. The grain went to the thresher literally in jig time, and before the workers even thought of being weary the job was done.

It seems that some seventeen acres of ground attached to the Indiana State School for the Deaf was needed for drilling a thousand men who were attending an Army vocational school. The land was covered with sheaves of wheat which could not be threshed, owing to lack of help. The superintendent told the men they could have it if they would save the crop. So the men marched out, headed by their band, and, presto! the thing was done. Everyone agrees that the music was a mighty factor in lightening the labor.

The psychology of it is not at all complicated. A good deal that we call fatigue is mental, and is due to giving too much thought to the strenuous character of the work. A man whose mind dwells constantly upon the fact that he is exerting himself contributes to his own weariness. But the music preoccupies him and his muscles, responding to the tune, perform wonders without causing the usual tired feeling. The same result is accomplished when one has intense interest in the task, but it is difficult to maintain interest in work which is a monotonous repetition of the same motions. Laborers who sing as they toil illustrate the same principle. Factories in which automatic music devices are now being installed also give it recognition.

The music must be suited to the task. The Indiana band played "Bringing In the Sheaves," of course. For battle, we have plenty of stirring airs to choose from. The best composers have not scorned to write scores to beguile the tedium of the long and dusty march. Everyone knows what music has done for the dance, and in aid of the digestion of dyspeptics. But it would seem as if the Indiana experiment had opened a new field for composers of "work music." Something vigorous, not too distracting, by no means languorous, yet timed so as to set a pace that gets results while it does not kill, is called for. And since work is ennobling, the new department of music composition is worthy of the attention of the highest musical talent we have at our command.

ENGLISH FOR AMERICANS.

An example of loyalty which all foreign-language newspapers in the United States would do well to emulate is furnished by one of the leading Italian newspapers of the country, Il Cittadino, of New York. It suggests that the proposal to require all German-language papers to accompany their foreign text with translations in English be not limited to German publications. The Italian editor is quite willing to overlook the consideration that the purpose of the requirement as to the German language would be to expose seditious utterances, in view of the still more important duty of the press of America generally to promote good citizenship.

This is in line with the views of the National Security League, as expressed by its president when he wrote recently: "It is the duty of every citizen to know the English tongue. To refuse to learn it is to fling defiance at the nation. To neglect to learn it is voluntarily to remain unfit for the duties of American citizenship." It cannot be gainsaid that familiarity with the language is essential to absorption of the spirit of our institutions. Ample testimony has been given to this by our enemies. Teutonic attempts to suppress the language and literature of the Czechs in Bohemia furnish a conspicuous example. The basic idea has been that if the language could be suppressed, and German substituted, the people would gradually be weaned from their own ideals and converted to those of Prussia.

The position taken by the Italian newspaper is worth considering. It recognizes the fact that by making it too easy for the immigrant to obtain news in his own language, and too difficult for him to find good models of English, his acquisition of the language of his adopted country is indefinitely delayed, if not entirely prevented. There is at the same time a certain educational value in the parallel texts which will be apparent to any teacher. It is significant that Il Cittadino has found the venture also profitable from a commercial standpoint. It declares that many of its readers find the English section a highly interesting feature, and intimates that it is growing in popularity. This would indicate that the supposed prejudice of foreigners against the new language is more apparent than real, and that ignorance of English among adults is due as largely to lack of opportunity as to mental resistance.

The newspaper serves the best interests of its constituency when it holds in the best sense the position of mentor and guide. Nothing more fortunate can happen to the foreign-language citizen than that he shall be, as the Italian editor phrases it, "educated and transformed into an active organic part of the nation's life." Thus conducted, the foreign-language press would serve not only the highest interests of its readers, but also those of the nation as a whole.

THE PROPOSED ECONOMIC WAR.

Discussion of a proposed economic war on Germany to follow the military war continues while the battles of the latter are being fought. It was begun by Premier Hughes, of Australia, was taken up by British business men, then by those of the other allied countries. It resulted in the allied economic conference at Paris, which resolved on an economic alliance against Germany after the war. It has extended to this country, and the movement has gained headway as conviction of German barbarity and perfidy deepened and as we gained knowledge of the extent to which German economic penetration had gone in placing some of our resources under enemy control, of the extent to which Germany had tainted some of our newspapers in the education of our children. Our minds were so revolted by these discoveries that our first impulse was to have nothing to do with Germany or anything German forever after.

This movement is a reaction from the great freedom of commercial intercourse and business investment which has been growing with improvement in means of communication and with development of wild countries. Great Britain, confident in command of the world's trade and devoted to the doctrine of free trade, looked on complacently while German trade branched out in all directions. The United States, impatient for development of resources which were beyond the power of this nation's capital, invited foreign capital to come in and help, and Germans readily accepted the invitation. The British colonies, being similarly situated, took the same course. Germans went everywhere, developed mines and plantations, built railroads, other public utilities and factories, opened business houses and ran steamship lines without hindrance. Their coming was considered to be in the ordinary way of business, and their success to be due to the energy of a newly united nation which had just found itself commercially. British manufacturers and exporters talked bitterly of German competition, but they were regarded as "squealers" against successful rivals.

Outbreak of war opened the eyes of the world to the fact that commercial expansion of Germany had been an instrument of the German government in effecting economic conquest of the countries it coveted, to prepare for their military and political conquest. The allied nations discovered that some of the most necessary materials of war which they produced were in the hands of their enemies, and that Germany had been laying in great supplies of these materials to be used in conquest. As Mr. Hughes expressed it in a recent speech in London:

> But for this war German ambition, inflated by the success of her policy of peaceful penetration, would have almost completely destroyed our trade and reduced us, as well as most of our allies, to a state of economic vassalage. We found the edifice of our industrial and commercial greatness honeycombed by German influence, German control and German money. Before this war we were, with a self-sufficiency which was a byword among nations, almost in a position of caretakers in the house we had built.

That description in a less degree applies to the United States also, as has been discovered by the Custodian of Enemy Property. Great industries in this country are owned by Germans, and great stores of raw material essential in war had been accumulated and withdrawn from the market for shipment to Germany when the war ends. Profits made on American industry had been invested in German bonds, and the proceeds had been expended in buying American newspapers to influence opinion against defense of American rights and in destroying American industries and ships. German economic penetration had been effected by great trusts with the aid and even under the direction of the German government in pursuance of its sinister aims, and German manufacturers and business men in foreign countries were agents and spies for their government.

As war measures, the nations thus assailed recaptured their resources from the enemy. It is now proposed to guard against a new economic invasion by keeping them in the hands of citizens of the country or of allied countries. But the plan goes farther, to the point of refusing to sell raw material to Germany and of refusing to buy manufactures from Germany. This is the much-talked-of economic boycott or war after the war. Old tariff theories are thrown overboard for the sake of national defense and national self-sufficiency and for the purpose of punishing Germany for her manifold crimes, among which is abuse of the commercial hospitality of her neighbors. The leading champion of this policy is Mr. Hughes, who says he has been "a fanatic among free traders." He has won wide support among British business men, who favor continuance of the present alliance as an economic alliance against Germany, and Kelly's Trade Review, which is devoted to British world-wide commerce, proposes an economic Anglo-American alliance in confidence that it would "keep Hun ambitions within bounds" and promote the peace of the world.

If this policy were to be adopted, it would be fatal to many German industries. Mr. Hughes showed this by quoting from a German, Emil Zimmerman, as follows:

> Our rise depended essentially on the English policy of the open door. We were sojourners in England's house, paying guests of the Anglo-Saxons. The secret of our success lies, apart from our organization and the training of our working classes, in the fact that England and the countries which are the great producers of raw materials granted us an open door, allowed us to draw on their vast reservoirs of raw materials. If this permission is withdrawn, we shall be at one stroke once more the Germany of 1880.

Zimmerman acknowledged that German textile industries depended on Anglo-Saxon wool and cotton, German electrical and other industries on the copper of the Anglo-Saxons, and he said:

> Our dependence on the Anglo-Saxons was so great that it is no exaggeration to say that our system of protection was only possible because the Anglo-Saxons put at our disposal their fields of cheap production across the sea. But they did more—they gave admission to our merchants, trade agents, commercial establishments everywhere in their broad domains, looked kindly on them, as long as they were modest, and thereby they assisted materially to open markets for our industrial products.

This, coming from the nation which has been clamoring for the "freedom of the seas," is a confession which matches that of Prince Lichnowsky that Germany is guilty of the war. It shows how disastrous to German industry would be an economic boycott to which the United States, Great Britain and all the other great colonizing nations would be parties.

But the boycott plan presupposes that Germany will still have the power and ambition to attempt world conquest, for it is designed to destroy that power in an economic sense. The United States and the allies are pledged to fight until German military power has been destroyed, until Germany has renounced ambition for conquest and has agreed to become a member in good faith of a world peace league. If those aims should be attained, the cause for the boycott would be removed and it would be directly contrary to the aims of the peace league. By keeping alive the enmities which the war has generated and by making Germany an outlaw among nations it would prepare the way for another war. It is adapted to a condition where the war ends in a draw or where the allies cease fighting before they bring Germany to the terms they have defined.

If the allies should finally defeat Germany so utterly that her military power would be destroyed, militarism renounced, a democratic form of government established and adhesion given to a peace league, the cause for a boycott would not exist and it would be in direct conflict with the allies' purposes and principles. Germany would still be required to pay an enormous sum in reparation for the damage she has done, but by crippling her industries with a boycott the allies would prevent the German people from earning the means of paying the bill. The needs of the allies would be so great to restore the ruined countries, to put their own industries on a prosperous peace basis, and to carry their own war burdens that they would for some years absorb almost all the material and ships available, and Germany would have to be content with what they could spare and with what sound judgment counseled them to grant.

That would make the recovery of Germany far slower than that of the allies, and the enmity of the world, which would die slowly, would prove a terrible handicap to the restoration of German commerce. Having won the victory and dictated terms of peace, the allies would wish to make that peace permanent. Having removed danger of German aggression, they could best contribute to that end by aiding reconciliation of a chastened and repentant Germany with the rest of the world.

The great fabricating plant at Hog Island having begun to build ships, it is up to Portland shipbuilders to look to their laurels. Hereafter a flood of ships will pour out of the yards, and Chairman Hurley says the supply needed for American commerce will not be completed for five years.

Poincare kissed Pershing on both cheeks when he gave him the cross, and, being a brave man, the General did not run; but it is safe to say every Yank who saw it was threatened with facial paralysis in his endeavor to avoid a smile.

Everybody will read with a huge sigh of relief that the men on the brink of Niagara Falls for sixteen hours were rescued. That experience must have been worse than a nightmare.

The thirteen employes of a newspaper at Waterloo, Ia., threatened with drafting if not engaged in an essential occupation, ought to get jobs in the big shop of Bill Galloway, who put the city on the advertising map.

A tanker was lightly considered a few years ago, but he will be among the most honored veterans a few years hence, wholly due to difference in the kind of tank and the use to which it was put.

Any man who blocks construction of a railroad into the spruce belt gives aid and comfort to the enemy, for he reduces output of airplanes to bomb frightfulness out of the German mind.

These new names—Fismes, Vesle and Aisne—are easy to pronounce in English by the man not proud of his French. At any rate, they do not tie up the jaw like German names.

Official Japan has a keen sense of honor, and the death of the captain of the Canada Maru, recently grounded, by falling overboard may be credited to his idea of eternal fitness.

If this were November rather than August, these would be the melancholy days when it's too warm to start the furnace and the fireplace smokes.

Newspaper conservation as worked out in Medford is most practical. The Morning Sun has become the Sunday Sun, leaving the daily field to the evening paper.

The cow that jumped over the moon has been displaced on the aviation record by the red-haired hog that topped the Portland market yesterday.

Most fellows who paid a little income tax this year are proud of it. Next year it may be different, if it be 10 per cent above exemption.

Child welfare has assumed new importance since we must look to conservation of infant life to compensate for destruction of adult life.

Living in Paris is much like life in a lightning section. If one is not hit by the big shell he does not mind it, and if he is hit it's all off.

Great Hun victory! A submarine sunk a lightship off Diamond Shoals. That is German gratitude. The vessel gives him his bearings.

The Kaiser evidently was not a great man to his dentist, who was calmly appraising him while he bragged.

By this time the Petrograd workmen would be satisfied with less liberty if they had no cholera.

The Japanese hops to the job in Siberia as if he liked it, which he does.

Take in a Veteran for the encampment. Better still, take two.

The Q-boat is more than a match for the U-boat.

Stars and Starmakers.

By Leone Case Baer.

In the headlines I read that the Onondaga Indians have declared war on the Germans. We may confidently look forward to some ardent soul starting a drive for a war-paint fund or a tomahawk-sanitaire or shirt-sewing bees for 'em.

* * *

Now that Nat Goodwin is "broke" and his possessions in the hands of a receiver, let's see if we're asked again to answer that old riddle, "Why do women marry Nat Goodwin?"

* * *

An actress who jilted a suitor over 60 years ago because he couldn't dance and wouldn't allow her to trip it, has just married the gentleman. He was a widower and she a widow. Well, I reckon he has seen the folly of arguing with a woman and has promised to learn the fox trot and hesitation waltz. Sixty years is a long time to hold out, though. You have to hand it to the doddering old Romeo.

* * *

Funny thing, when these actor-matrimonial boats capsize the drowning husband or wife persists in clinging to the outsider who rocked the boat.

* * *

It begins to look to me as if the same person or group of persons who used to christen the Pullman sleepers is now naming the ships. I can't spell half of 'em, let alone pronounce 'em.

* * *

Gee, a man must hate war to commit bigamy.

* * *

Still, married men make the best fighters, authorities agree. Why not? Constance practice, plus the energy born of desperation, are excellent assets for the warrior.

* * *

James Bliss, who will be director of the Alcazar Players, will arrive in Portland next Saturday. Jimmy and his wife have lots of local friends and are sure to be welcomed back. Since they were last here there's an important personage, Miss Joy Bliss, aged almost a year, who is to be introduced to admiring friends of Mother and Daddy Bliss.

* * *

May Robson's nephew, George Kinckard, of Surrey, England, has donated $100,000 and 160 acres of land to the war cause, to be used as a remount station.

* * *

Zoe Barnett, hitherto of musical comedy art, is to be an operatic star—maybe. The little California warbler will be heard during the Winter in Boston, New York, Philadelphia and Chicago in the title role of "Carmen" and "Aida." Miss Barnett has been a prima donna of note in such New York productions as "The Kiss Burglar," "Toot, Toot," "The Midnight Girl," "All Aboard," "The Red Rose," "The Debutante" and others, as well as appearing in vaudeville. For three seasons Miss Barnett headed the Tivoli Grand Opera in San Francisco, where she first gained her training in all the principal grand opera roles.

* * *

Margaret Mayo, who sails for France shortly at the head of the Margaret Mayo unit of theatrical people, believes that the members of her company are proving as much, if not more than anyone else, the sacrifices being made by theatrical people in their effort to do something for the soldiers. Elizabeth Bryce, when she heard that Ray Cox would be unable to accompany the unit, promptly canceled theatrical books covering more than a year and offered her services, which were immediately accepted. Two others in the unit are Will Morrisey and Roland Young. The former, who will act as interlocutor for the unit, has written a new song called "When You Get Back to the Girl You Left Behind." He has dedicated it to the unit and will sing it while abroad. Mr. Young, who will be remembered for his performances in "Good Gracious Annabelle," "A Successful Calamity" and "The Gypsy Trail," has been released from a long term contract by Arthur Hopkins to make this trip.

* * *

Walter Corry, who has been identified with the Baker and Alcazar companies for the past three seasons, has gone to San Francisco to go into stock. Mr. Corry is a talented juvenile actor and already has made good in many difficult roles. For one season he toured in "The Old Homestead" company and has appeared in a vaudeville sketch. Portland friends will look forward to his success.

* * *

A theatrical publication tells about two chorus maids who wanted to get into the papers, but who succeeded in getting only into jail. The account called it "the hoosegow," which interpreted means the city bastile. It took place in Chicago:

"Ira Vale, the auto racer, took Gladys Alexander and Margy Holtz, a pair of Norworth chorusettes to the Congress Hotel for supper. While it was being served the ladies noticed on the bottom of the plates "made in Germany."

"Came the inspiration, with a vision of a three-column layout in the morning papers. The girls deliberately smashed those plates—several dollars' worth of them.

"Jack Lacey, the hotel manager, galloped up all foam-flecked.

"'Hey, can that rough stuff,' he yodeled. 'Where do you hicks think you are, in a lumber camp?'

"Mr. Vail piped:

"'It's all right, Mr. Officer. I'll pay the bill.'

"'Sure you will,' said Lacey, 'and also these dames is going to the hoosegow.'

"Any they missed the show that night and they were docked accordingly."

* * *

Mme. Jomelli will give vocal instructions under the auspices of the University of California through the Summer term.

* * *

It's getting so that the Stage Women's War Relief is going to all ends to accomplish its purposes. Now the Chicago branch of that worthy organization is inaugurating a "Shirt Tail Drive."

The idea is to canvass for discarded shirts or the remnants of the same, and use the material either for dresses or pinafores for destitute infants. An appeal has been sent out from Chicago to numerous actors requesting that hereafter all superfluous shirt tails be forwarded to headquarters. Of course, this is complimentary in itself, because it assumes that all actors have an extra shirt.

* * *

After all, Henry Miller will not play his annual season in California. Yesterday he abandoned his tour of the Far West, and arranged instead to begin a Summer season at the Blackstone Theater, Chicago, on July 29. He intends in the future, at the close of his regular season at the Henry Miller Theater, to take a specially organized company to the Blackstone, and make Chicago his producing center.

DEFECTIVES ARE IN SAD PLIGHT

Segregation Impossible and Worse Condition Is Possibly in Store.

PORTLAND, Aug. 7.—(To the Editor.)—You say that I am cynical in claiming that legislators might begin a new penitentiary if they were robbed of their pay through a jail delivery while the Legislature was in session. Possibly, but I had in mind the object lesson all around and not the number of dollars which might be collected.

As you say it resolves itself into a question of the duty of a Legislature in a pure democracy (only this is not a pure democracy and never can be). We have a representative democracy of necessity. A New England writer has said, "Our public assemblies are pretty good tests of manly force"; also, "The men who carry their points do not need to inquire of their constituents what they should say, but are themselves the country which they represent." He never saw an Oregon Legislature, however.

I have gone before legislative committees for several sessions and with some notable exceptions I have found the attitude of legislators to be one of ignorant resistance. If enough people of standing demand action they can get it of the Legislature. Otherwise the "perfunctory adjunct of a pure democracy" as you call it, will balk.

I was at the Courthouse Monday talking about the disposition of two boy automobile thieves and two imbecile children. There is no segregation of offenders in the reform school and a large proportion of defective and consequently very bad boys there. No judge of decent instincts wants to send normal boys where they must associate with vicious companions even if their parents have spoiled them. At present there is no chance even to segregate delinquents in the boys' school or the girls' school or the penitentiary. Then some imbecile children will be in court tomorrow and nobody wants them and the state has no place. A member of the Legislature was present and the responsibility of that body was pointed out. He replied, "Well, why don't the women's clubs go to Salem and insist that the Legislature provide suitable accommodations?"

Four years ago the legislative committee visited the institution for the feeble minded. They voiced their conclusion to the superintendent thus: "What you need here is a supply of chloroform." Yet it would seem more simple as well as humane to prevent half-imbecile women from bearing children than to propose idly that they be chloroformed "after" they are born.

Let me point out an instance of legislative skill in submitting "questions to the people because it (the Legislature) does not wish to run directly counter to public opinion." There are nearly 700 dependent, defective and delinquent children in institutions receiving state aid in Oregon. Because objections were raised on sectarian grounds the Legislature passed a law providing that no money be paid to these institutions after December 31, 1918. Of course everyone knows that no Legislature may forbid a succeeding Legislature from appropriating money for any purpose. However, this law is on the statute books. To make this artistically complete the Legislature then passed a bill to be referred to the people next November appropriating $200,000 for an institution near Portland to be constructed de novo for dependent, defective aind delinquent children. The ten institutions now receiving state aid have buildings and grounds worth about $1,000,000 to say nothing of operating expenses. To add to this exhibition of legislative wisdom no provision was made for the care of these 700 children while this new institution is being constructed, assuming that the public wants it.

Am I cynical in saying that a forcible object lesson even though unwelcome and undesirable might serve as a sort of surgical operation on our "perfunctory adjunct of a pure democracy?"

GEORGE A. THACHER.

DUTY.

Ever a-calling me, ever forestalling
me, never a-slacking through
months and through years;
Ever a-beckoning, ever a-reckoning,
ever a-clacking its warning and
fears.
Never a rest from it, never the best
of it, ever a-dodging it—never
quite free;
Wearied to death with it, all out of
breath with it, Duty, the tyrant,
pursues as I flee.

Striving to cope with it, trying to hope
with it, yet loving liberty and
its appeals;
Longing to strangle it, often I mangle
it, yet find it's living and close
at my heels.
Sometimes I chaff at it, often I laugh
at it, still its grim shadow doth
ever appear;
Poor wretched mess of it—would there
were less of it, or that we met
it with hearts more sincere.

—GRACE E. HALL.

In Quartermaster Corps.

HUBBARD, Or., Aug. 6.—(To the Editor.)—How is the Quartermaster Corps of the Army supplied? I have noticed that you said one could not volunteer into it. How then? What are the necessary steps to get in the school for the corps?

A SUBSCRIBER.

You fail to state whether or not you are a draft registrant. If so, you do not have the privilege of induction into the Quartermaster Corps. If you are not of draft age, you have the opportunity to get into this branch of the regular Army. The schools are only for training officers and application may be made only by enlisted men.

Age of Majority.

ASTORIA, Or., Aug. 6.—(To the Editor.)—A says a girl does not really become of age until she is 21 and B says a girl becomes of age at 18. How old must a girl be to be able to sell property left her by the death of a relative? May she sell it before coming of age without going through a great number of court proceedings?

A SUBSCRIBER.

Females in Oregon arrive at the age of majority at 18 or upon lawful marriage and thereafter have control of their own actions and business. They cannot vote, however, until 21.

Descent of Son's Property.

SALEM, Or., Aug. 6.—(To the Editor.)—If one brother has 120-acre farm and dies unmarried, do sisters have any claim to his property, or does it all go to mother, his father being dead? The mother and father were divorced.

A READER.

In Oregon when the father is dead and a son who has neither wife nor children dies without making a will, the son's real property descends to the mother.

When Rent Is Raised.

PORTLAND, Or., Aug. 2.—(To the Editor.)—Please tell me if there is any recourse, except getting out, where a landlord raises the rent unreasonably, taking into consideration other homes in the neighborhood and twice within six months. We have been told that there is some place where such a matter will be taken under advisement in behalf of tenants who feel they are being taken advantage of.

READER.

The landlord has the upper hand in such cases. We know of no relief.

In Other Days.

Half a Century Ago.

From The Oregonian of August 17, 1868.

San Francisco.—The Morning Chronicle, now the Democratic Chronicle, will be issued September 1 as an independent daily newspaper.

San Francisco.—A grand salute is to be fired at sunset today in honor of the Empress Eugenie by French residents of the city.

The East Side railway is going forward with great energy. The grading is finished as far as the Clackamas River and ties enough to lay three miles of track are ready for use.

The wagon road from Jacksonville to Fort Klamath will be reopened by private subscription.

The City Seminary will open Monday with S. D. Pope as principal during the Summer.

Twenty-five Years Ago.

From The Oregonian of August 17, 1893.

Washington.—William J. Bryan, the eloquent young Representative from Nebraska, made a free-coinage speech which surpassed his great tariff speech of two years ago.

New York.—The unemployed held a rally and demonstration in Washington Square.

St. Paul.—The monthly payroll of the Great Northern was cut from $600,000 to $350,000.

Arkansas City.—The U. S. Cavalry has driven all intruders from the Cherokee strip, preparatory to opening it for settlement.

A correspondent urges the construction of adequate fishways by the dams in the Oregon rivers. If this is not done soon, he says, royal Chinook salmon and their brethren will be a curiosity in the Northwest.

THE ALLIES' ALPHABET.

(Recently there appeared in the Outlook "The Hun Alphabet." With apologies to the author, Lee Welling Squier, the following is submitted.)

A means America, atrocious Huns will rout.
B is for bonny boys to hunt the bull-beast out.
C points to carry on till cruel tyrants die.
D stands for duty clear to hang the devils high.
E tells of energy our enemies to quell.
F is for force to fling ferocious fiends to h——l.
G is for our gunners brave, grossness cannot scare.
H stands for Hades; horrors wait on Wilhelm there.
I means indemnities—no injury for naught.
J is for joy at junked junkers' Juggernaut.
K is the kinks we'll put in kultured Kaiser brute.
L stands for love and light, o'ercoming lust and loot.
M point to many men avenging murders red.
N is for nations free, on nastiness unfed.
O means omnipotence against oppression's course.
P is for patriots, who'll dam pollution's source.
Q is the quick retort to question mark of Hun.
R means repair for all rapacious acts with gun.
S is for soldiery no savage ever beat.
T tells of time to come when torturers shall bleat.
U is united strength to wreck the U-boat plan.
V is for victory o'er vileness and for man.
W means the world we'll free of woes from Germany.
X—well, let X stand for Huns' unplumbed villiany.
Y is our Yelling Yanks, licking yellow lizards—
Z stands for zeal and zip—with bayonets they're wizards! —E. S.

Substitute for "Benson."

PORTLAND, Aug. 7.—(To the Editor.)—I was a student attending the Benson Polytechnic School, but that school is now taken by the soldiers for the duration of the war. I heard a student say recently that the old Atkinson Trade School was to be used again. Kindly inform me on the subject?

A STUDENT.

The Atkinson Trade School will not be used. Benson Polytechnic students will be distributed among the high schools this year as follows: Franklin, woodworking, second term technical students; Jefferson, fourth, fifth and sixth term machinists, academic students; Washington, first, second and third term technical students, electrical students, mechanical, architectural drawing and academic students, foundry students. The two discarded portables of the Kellogg School will be combined for the electrical shop.

When Registration Papers Are Lost.

PORTLAND, Aug. 6.—(To the Editor.)—A man registered on June 5, 1917, for the selective draft. The local board lost all trace of his registration papers, and after repeated efforts to have the matter corrected he was advised that there was nothing for him to do except wait for his call. Registrant removed from city, but to date has heard nothing further from his board, although he has not been out of communication. Is the registrant's card sufficient to protect him from liability under the draft law?

J. H. B.

The wise course is for you to communicate with your old board unless you have done so quite recently. If they report that your status with them remains as before then reregister with the board in whose jurisdiction you now reside.

CHICKEN DINNER WITH TRIMMINGS.

The city family is finding it harder to get what it needs, and here is the farmer's chance to sell A COMPLETE DINNER, made made up from your garden, of vegetables, fruits, butter and eggs — AND — poultry, together with the party touch of flowers. Combine with your neighbors and sell COMPLETE DINNERS, ready for cooking, all the year 'round.

The United States Department of Agriculture has prepared FOUR Booklets that will give you much detail on HOW to do business by parcel post in an easy and businesslike manner. These books you can obtain through the Washington bureau of this paper.

It is the intention of this bureau to keep you in touch with the latest Government information that will enable you to get the best out of your work and property, so we say to you, SEND FOR THESE BOOKLETS AT ONCE. They are FREE.

Prepare now for your Winter trade. Preserve your fruits, can or evaporate your vegetables and raise your chickens that Winter will afford you an ample stock to keep your Summer-made customers in supply.

Send to The Portland Oregonian Information Bureau, Frederic J. Haskin, director, Washington, D. C. Ask for the four booklets on "Marketing by Parcel Post." Just a 2-cent stamp for return delivery is needed. The books are free.